

Clark County School District Awarded \$2.43 Million Grant to Improve Public Health

On September 24, 2012, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Community Transformation Grant (CTG) was awarded to Clark County School District (CCSD) in the amount of \$2,433,159 to support public health efforts to reduce chronic diseases, promote healthier lifestyles, reduce health disparities, and control health care spending in small communities. By focusing on where people live, work, learn, and play, the national CTG program is expected to improve the health of more than four out of 10 U.S. citizens, or approximately 130 million Americans.

HHS awarded a total of nearly \$70 million in prevention grants to 40 applicants whose projects focused on improving the health of small communities across the nation. Administered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the CTG program is a comprehensive prevention and wellness initiative launched in 2011 and funded through the Affordable Care Act Prevention and Public Health Fund. These new funds will support areas with fewer than 500,000 people in neighborhoods, school districts, villages, towns, cities, and counties. Committed to improving health, awardees represent organizations from a multitude of sectors.

Support from the business community, school districts, community-based organizations, and other non-traditional partners is critical to reducing deaths and health costs due to heart attacks, strokes, cancer, diabetes, and other serious health problems. In partnership with the Southern Nevada Health District, CCSD will conduct activities in one or more areas that contribute to the overall goals of the CTG program and help achieve positive changes in the following outcome measures: 1) weight, 2) proper nutrition, 3) physical activity, and 4) tobacco use.

The Community Transformation Grants are one component of a broader effort by federal government agencies and the current administration to address the health and well-being of U.S. communities through initiatives such as the President's Childhood Obesity Task Force, the First Lady's *Let's Move!* campaign, the National Prevention Strategy, the National Quality Strategy, and HHS Million Hearts™ initiative. The Prevention and Public Health Fund, a component of the Affordable Care Act, is supporting the CTG program and other initiatives designed to expand and sustain the necessary capacity for early detection and prevention of chronic diseases, manage conditions before they become severe, and provide states and communities the resources they need to promote healthy living.

The CCSD team who produced the award winning grant application included Mary Pike, Project Director; Leslie Nix, Grant Coordinator; and Jacqueline Ragin, Program Evaluator. The Southern Nevada Health District staff included Deborah Williams, Manager, and Nicole Bungum, Supervisor, both of the Office of Chronic Disease Prevention & Health Promotion; and Maria Azzarelli, Tobacco Control Program Coordinator.

For more information:

- Project Director: Mary Pike, phone: 702-799-2348, e-mail: pikem@interact.ccsd.net
- Community Transformation Grant program and a list of all awards:
www.cdc.gov/communitytransformation